HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/037,942

Confirmation No. 7761

Applicant (s)

Alain M. Sagnard et al January 3, 2002

Filed

TC/A.U. Examiner 1772

Jane J. Rhee

Title

BUILDING PANEL HAVING AT LEAST TWO PANEL DOMAINS

OF DIFFERENT AVERAGE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH

Docket No.

61301A

Customer No.

00109

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH

THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

October 27, 2003

DATE OF DEPOSIT

Stephanie S. Potts

DATE OF SIGNATURE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

This Interview Summary is responsive to a request in the Summary Record (Paper No. 7) mailed 16 October 2003. In addition to this Summary, a formal response to the pending final rejection was submitted on 10 October 2003, which contains most of the following information. Applicant respectfully submits the following interview summary to ensure completeness.

Exhibits Shown

None.

Claims Discussed

Claim 1, from which all other claims depend.

Specific Prior Art Discussed

US 5,916,672 (Reeves, et al.)

Propose Amendments

None.

61301A

-1-

Appln. No. 10/037,942 Interview Summary dated October 24, 2003 Reply to Office Action of October 16, 2003

General Thrust of Principal Arguments to Examiner

As a result of the interview, Applicant came to realize that the Examiner understands

"extending through the thickness of the panel" to include "extending partially through the

thickness of the panel."

Applicant asserted that "extending through the thickness of the panel" does not mean

anything less than extending from one primary face through to an opposing face. Applicant

referred to Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 10th Edition, page 1230, which provides

multiple definitions for "through." (A copy of this page form Merriam Webster's Collegiate

Dictionary was included with the Response mailed on 10 October 2003 and is included

herewith.) It is unclear how any of these definitions can mean anything but extending from

one surface to another or one boundary to another.

Applicant also pointed to a portion of the specification where extending through the

thickness of the panel draws support (page 5, lines 33-34). This section states that a band

desirably "extends the thickness of the panel." The term "panel thickness" is defined on page

4, lines 33-34 of the present Application as "a perpendicular distance between a primary face

and its opposing face."

Applicant argued that this evidence indicates the meaning of "extending through the

thickness of the panel" means extending from one primary face to an opposing face and

nothing less.

The Examiner disagreed, stating that at dictionary she has provides a definition for

"through" that means less than from one side to another.

Other Pertinent Matters Discussed

None.

General Results or Outcomes

Agreement was not reached.

Respectfully submitted

Steven W. Mork

Registration No. 48,258

Phone: 989-636-8434

P. O. Box 1967 Midland, MI 48641-1967

61301A -2-

The Voice of Aluthority

Merriam Websters Collegiate Dictionary

TENTH EDITION

America's best-selling dictionary



Merriann-Webster: Canying forward Noah Websters legacy since 1847



A GENUINE MERRIAM-WEBSTER

The name Webster alone is no guarantee of excellence. It is used by a number of publishers and may serve mainly to mislead an unwary buyer.

Merriam-WebsterTM is the name you should look for when you consider the purchase of dictionaries or other fine reference books. It carries the reputation of a company that has been publishing since 1831 and is your assurance of quality and authority.

Copyright © 1997 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

Philippines Copyright 1997 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

SESI AVAILABLE COPY

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data Main entry under title:

Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. -- 10th ed.

p. cm.

Includes index.

ISBN 0-87779-708-0 (unindexed : alk. paper). — ISBN 0-87779-709-9 (indexed : alk. paper). — ISBN 0-87779-707-2 (laminated cover).

1. English language—Dictionaries. I. Merriam-Webster, Inc.

PE1628.M36 1997

423—dc20

DU:

ngl

of s

ria h E and hi

ove e f

lea'

e tl

mi t li

wr

ad

ad

cti

gra.

'ee

ful *v*o

ies

int on

ee

lii ia

t l ria

cti di ai al

er.

96-42529

CIP

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate[®] Dictionary, Tenth Edition principal copyright 1993

COLLEGIATE is a registered trademark of Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

All rights reserved. No part of this book covered by the copyrights hereon may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means—graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, taping, or information storage and retrieval systems—without written permission of the publisher.

Made in the United States of America

1920RMcN97

Abbreviati

thros-tle \'thrä-sol\ n [ME, fr. OE — more at THRUSH] (bef. 12c): \[\text{'ITHRUSH} \]; \specif': SONG THRUSH \] throt-tle \'thrä-t'\], \[\text{b} \] throt-tle \'thrä-t'\], \[\text{b} \] throt-tle \'thrä-t'\], \[\text{b} \] throt-tle \(\text{throt-tln} \), \[\text{thrat-t'}\], \[\text{b} \] throt-tle \(\text{throt-tln} \), \[\text{throt-tln} \], \[\text{

throt-tle-able \(^\thrace{thrace} - \text{bold of (1900)} : capable of naving the intest varied — used of a rocket engine throt-tle-hold \(^\thrace \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} \) a vicious, strangling, or stultifying control \(^\text{thrace} - \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} \) through \(^\thrace \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} \) through \(^\thrace \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} \) a vicious, strangling, or stultifying control \(^\text{thrace} - \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} \) through \(^\thrace \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} - \text{thrace} \) used as a function word to indicate movement into at one side or point and out at another and esp. the opposite side of \(^\text{drove} \tau \text{ and} \) the desert\(^\text{4} - \text{the door}) \(^{\text{3}} - \text{ used as a function word to indicate passage from one end or boundary to another \(^\text{a highway} \to \text{throve} \to a road \(^\text{ composite side} \) of a treatment, handling, or process (the matter has already passed \to her hands) \(^\text{2} - \text{ used as a function word to indicate means, agency, or intermediacy: as \(^\text{ a: by common descent from or relationship with \(^\text{related} \to \text{ indicate movement within a large expanse \(^\text{flew} \to \text{ the air}\) c — used as a function word to indicate movement within a large expanse \(^\text{flew} \to \text{ the air}\) c — used as a function word to indicate exposure to a specified set of conditions \(^\text{cpt} \text{ the the entire period of \(^\text{all} \to \text{ he mather has a function word to indicate a period of time: as a : during the entire period of \(^\text{all} \to \text{ he mather has a function word to indicate acceptance or expansion \(^\text{ sintension sign of the bolk} \) went \(^\text{ he money in a year} \) b— used as a function word to indicate completion or exhaustion \(^\text{ sintension sign of the bolk} \) \(^\text{ he money in a year} \) b— used as a function word to indicate completion or exhaustion \

— compare STROPHIC
through-ith-er or through-oth-er \'thrü-(\(\frac{1}{2}\))thor\ adv \[\frac{1}{2}\)through +
other\[(1596) chiefly Scot: in confusion: PROMISCUOUSLY
through-ly \'thrü-[e\] adv \[(15c) archaic: in a thorough manner
'through-out \'thrü-[aut\] adv \[(13c) \] 1: in or to every part: EVERY.
WHERE \(\frac{1}{2}\) of one color \(\sigma\) 2: during the whole time or action: from
beginning to end \(\text{remained loyal} \sigma\)
'throughout \(\text{prep} \) (13c) 1: all the way from one end to the other of
: in or to every part of \(\text{cities} \sigma\) the United States\) 2: during the
whole course or period of \(\text{troubled her} \sigma\) her life\(\text{through-put} \' \'thr\"u-put\) n (ca. 1915): OUTPUT, PRODUCTION \(\text{the} \sigma\) of a
computer\(\)

through street n (1930): a street on which the through movement of

computer)
through street n (1930): a street on which the through movement of traffic is given preference
throve past of ThRIVE
throw \'thrô\ vb \threw \'thrû\; thrown \'thrôn\; throw-ing [ME
thrawen; throwen to cause to twist, throw, fr. OE thrāwan to cause to
twist or turn; akin to OHG drāen to turn, L terere to rub, Gk tribein to
rub, tetrainein to bore, pierce] vt (14c) 1 a: to propel through the air
by a forward motion of the hand and arm (\simeq a baseball) b: to propel
through the air in any manner (a rifle that can \simeq a bullet a mile) 2 e
: to cause to fall (threw his opponent) b: to cause to fall off: UNSEAT
(the horse threw its rider) c: to get the better of: OVERCOME (the
problem didn't \simeq her? \there \text{hr} \text{ a } a: to fling (oneself) precipitately (threw
herself down on the sofa) b! to drive or impel violently: DASH (the
ship was thrown on a reef) 4 a (1): to put in a particular position
or condition (threw her arms around him) (2): to put on or off hastily or carelessly (threw on a coat) b: to bring to bear: EXERT (threw
a pontoon bridge over the river) 5: to form or shape on a potter'
wheel 6: to deliver (a blow) in or as if in boxing 7: to twist two or
more filaments of into a thread or yarn 8 a: to make a cast of (dice
or a specified number on dice) b: ROLL 1a (\simeq a bowling ball) 9: (io
give up: ABANDON 10: to send forth: PROJECT (the setting sun threw
long shadows) 11: to make (oneself) dependent: commit (oneself)
for help, support, or protection (threw himself on the mercy of the
court) 12: to indulge in: give way to (threw a temper tantrum) 13:
to bring forth: give birth to: SIRE PRODUCE (\simeq a gond crop) (threw
large litters) 14: to lose intentionally (\simeq a game) 15: to move (a
lever) so as to connect or disconnect parts of a clutch or switch; also
: to make or break (a connection) with a lever 16: to give by way of
entertainment (\simeq a party) \simeq vi: CAST, HURL — throw-er \'thrôl-s)r
n — throw one's weight around or throw one's weight aboult
: to exercise

hurried and usu. careless manner (a bookshelf hastily thrown together)
2: to bring into casual association (different kinds of people are thrown together—Richard Sennett)
syn THROW. CAST. TOSS. FLING, HURL, PITCH. SLING mean to cause to move swiftly through space by a propulsive movement or a propelling force. THROW is general and interchangeable with the other terms but may specif. imply a distinctive motion with bent arm (can throw a fastball and a curve). CAST usu. implies lightness in the thing thrown and sometimes a scattering (cast it to the winds). TOSS suggests a light or careless or aimless throwing and may imply an upward motion (tossed the coat on the bed). FLING stresses a violent throwing (flung the ring back in his face). HURL implies power as in throwing a massive weight (hurled himself at the intruder). PITCH suggests throwing carefully at a target (pitch horseshoes). SLING stresses either the use of whirling momentum in throwing or directness of aim (slung the bag over his shoulder).

whirling momentum in throwing or directness of aim (slung the bag over his shoulder).

2throw n (1530) 1 a: an act of throwing, hurling, or flinging b (i): an act of throwing dice (2): the number thrown with a cast of dice c: a method of throwing an opponent in wrestling or judo 2: the distance a missile may be thrown or light rays may be projected 3: an undertaking involving chance or danger: RISK. VENTURE 4: the amount of vertical displacement produced by a geological fault 5 a: the extreme movement given to a pivoted or reciprocating piece by a cam, crank, or eccentric: STROKE b: the length of the radius of a crank or the virtual crank radius of an eccentric or cam 6 a: a light coverlet (as for a bed) b: a woman's scarf or light wrap — a throw: for each one: APIECE (copies are to be sold at \$5 a throw—Harvey Breit).

Hrett)

1throw-away \thro-2-,wa\ n (1903) 1: one that is or is designed to be thrown away: as a: a free handbill or circular b: a line of dialogue (as in a play) de-emphasized by casual delivery; esp: a joke or witticism delivered casually 2: something made or done without care or

cism delivered casually 2: something made or done without care or interest

Throwaway adj (1928) 1: designed to be thrown away: DISPOSABLE (**containers) 2: written or spoken (as in a play) in a low-key or unemphatic manner (**clines) 3: NONCHALANT. CASUAL throw away yr (1530) 1 a: to get rid of as worthless or unnecessary b: DISCARD 2b 2 a: to use in a foolish or wasteful manner: SQUANDER b: to fail to take advantage of: wASTE 3: to make (as a line in a play) unemphatic by casual delivery

throw-back 'thro-back n (1888) 1 a: reversion to an earlier type or phase: ATAVISM b: an instance or product of atavistic reversion 1: one that is suggestive of or suited to an earlier time or style (his manners were a ~ to a more politic era)

throw back vr (1840) 1: to delay the progress or advance of: CHECT 2: to cause to rely: make dependent (they are thrown back upon: native intelligence —Michael Novak) 3: REFLECT ~ vi: to revert to an earlier type or phase throw down vr (14c) 1: to cause to fall: OVERTHROW 2: PRECIPITATE 3: to cast off: DISCARD throw-in' \thro-in' h'n' (1881): an act or instance of throwing a ball in as a: a throw made from the touchline in soccer to put the ball back in play after it has gone into touch b: a throw from an outfielder to the infield in baseball c: an inbounds pass in basketball throw in vr (1678) 1: to add as a gratuity or supplement 2: to introduce or interject in the course of something: CONTRIBUTE (they throw in some ... sound effects on several songs —Tom Phillips) 3: DISTRIBUTE 3b 4: ENGAGE (throw in the clutch) ~ vi: to enter into association or partnership: JOIN (agrees to throw in with a crooked ex-con —Newsweek) — throw in the towel also throw in the sponge: to abandon a struggie or cuntest: acknowledge (drat sponge) and throw off vr (1618) 1 a: to free oneself from: get rid of (threw different produce or to the produce of the

throw off vi (1618) 1 a: to free oneself from: get rid of (threw off his inhibitions) b: to cast off often in a hurried or vigorous manner:

ABANDON (threw off all restraint) e: DASTRACT, DIVERT (does thrown off by a false scent) 2: EMIT, GIVE OFF (stacks throwing off plumes of smoke) 3: to produce in an offhand manner: execute with speed of facility (some little ... tune that the composer had thrown off ... James Hilton) 4 a: to cause to depart from an expected or desired course (mistakes threw his calculations off a bit) b: to cause to make a mistake: MISLEAD ~ vi 1: to begin hunting 2: to make derogatory comments

throw out vi (1526) 1 a: to remove from a place, office, or employment usu. in a sudden or unexpected manner b: to get rid of a worthless or unnecessary 2: to give expression to: UTTER (threw out vi dismiss from acceptance or consideration: REJECT (the testimony was thrown out) 4: to make visible or manifest: DISLAY (the signal was thrown out for the... fleet to prepare for action—Archibald Duncan) for the constant of the cons

(a base runner)
throw over vi (1835) 1: to forsake despite bonds of attachment or
duty 2: to refuse to accept: REJECT
throw pillow n (1956): a small pillow used esp. as a decorative accept.

sory
throw rug n (1928): SCATTER RUG
throw-ster \ thrō-star\ n (15c): one who throws textile filaments
throw up vi (15c) 1: to raise quickly 2: GIVE UP, QUIT (the urge
to throw up all intellectual work — Norman Mailer) 3: to build hur
riedly (new houses thrown up almost overnight) 4: voMIT 5: 10
bring forth: PRODUCE 6: to make distinct esp. by contrast; sous of
stand out 7: to mention repeatedly by way of reproach wit; voMIT
- throw up one's hands: to admit defeat (in the end throws up hands in despair — Frank Conroy)
throw weight n (1969): the maximum payload of an ICBM
thru yar of THROUGH

thru weight n (1909): the maximum payload of an icentrum of THROUGH
'thrum \'throm\ n [ME, fr. OE -thrum (in tungethrum ligament of the tongue); akin to OHG drum fragment] (14c) 1 a (1): a finise of warp threads left on the loom after the cloth has been removed : one of these warp threads b: a tuft or short piece of rope yarn used

in thrumming canvas — usu. used in pl. c fiber, or threadlike leaf on a plant; also: a tures — thrum adj.

thrum vt thrummed; thrum-ming (15c)

A. 网络阿特特特斯斯特克斯特

hrum vt hrummed; thrum-ming (15c)
FRINGE 2: to insert short pieces of rope y
of canvas) to make a rough surface or a n
about rigging to prevent chafing
whrum vb thrummed; thrum-ming [imit.
pluck a stringed instrument idly: STRUM 2
nous hum ~ vt 1: to play (as a stringedeaxed manner 2: to recite tiresomely or
whrum n (1798): the monotonous sound of
whrush \thrash\ n [ME thrusche, fr. OE t
thrush\ OHG droscala, L turdus] (bef. 12c)
or medium-sized oscine birds (families Tumich are mostly of a plain color often wi
many of which are excellent singers 2:
thrush n [prob. of Scand origin; akin to E
thrush n [prob. of Scand origin; akin to E

many of which are excellent singers 2:
thrush
thrush n [prob. of Scand origin; akin to I
(166) 1: a disease that is caused by a
ccurs esp. in infants and children, and is r
the oral cavity; broadly: CANDIDIASIS (vagi
diorder of the feet in various animals (as a t
thrust 'thrust' by thrust; thrust-ing [M
thrista prob. akin to ON thriōta to tire, OE
mere or pierce something by or as if by p
tearl) 3: EXTEND. SPREAD 4: STAB. PIERC
(willing person) forcibly into a course of act
mic the job) b: to introduce often impn
ERPOLATE 6: to press, force, or impose th
one (~ new responsibilities upon her)
'trace or passage b: to push forward:
upward: PROJECT 2: to make a thrust, s
with a pointed weapon (~ at them with a k
thrust n (ca. 1586) 1 a: a push or lunge
(I): a verbal attack (2): a military assau
and pressure b: the sideways force or pretime against another part (as of an arch age
love produced by a propeller or by a jet or
vehicle (as an aircraft) forward d: a nearly
3 a: a forward or upward push b: a m
people) in a specified direction 4 a: sali
meaning b: principal concern or objective
function of the principal concern or objective
funct

CLESSIVE (~ young man on the make — Cur. thrust stage n [thrust, pp. of 'thrust] (19) byond the proscenium so that the audience the: a forestage that is extended into the

stage area thinway \'thrü-,wā\ n (1930): EXPRESSWA\
thind\'thod\ n [imit.] (1787) 1: BLOW 2:
thind vi thud-ded; thud-ding (1796): to n

high 'thog\ n [Hindi thag, lit., thicf] (1810)

in: GANGSTER KILLER — thug-gery \'th

'th-gish\ adj

balg\'this-js, 'thysi-\ n [NL Thuja fr. ML

high this shows a show the sh

weightine-ja, Thyu-\niNL Thug, Ir. ML, thein to sacrifice—more at THYMB[(inligit) of evergreen shrubs and trees (as a baily having scalelike closely imbricated or Thue \thin-ia, thyui-\n [ME Tyle, fr. OE Roule, Thyle] (bef. 12c): the northernmochable \thin-ia, adj Thyle Greenland (192)

This le \'tu-le\ adj [Thule, Greenland] (192

ent world Thule, Greenland] (192 be culture existing in the arctic lands from bout 500 A.D. to 1400 A.D. to 1500 A.D. to 1400 A.D. to 1500 A.D. to 1400 A.D. to 1500 A.D. to 1

islament (them provided in the thumb

standard the thumb

standard adj (1852) : CONCISE, BRIEF (1

mb piano n (1949): MBIRA
b print \thom-print\ n (1900): an
both and by the thumb; esp: a print n
the inside of the first joint
bookscrew \-,skrü\ n (1794) 1: a sc

The second second